

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a composite wrapping and shielding tape for use in cable manufacture. Embodiments of the composite tape comprise a single tape configuration to separate and shield individual pairs of insulated conductors housed within a cable such as a high-speed data communications cable. The single tape configurations of the invention are multifolded and assembled from foil/film laminates to form a plurality of longitudinal channels or grooves to accommodate one or more pairs of insulated conductors and a variety of cable designs. During cable manufacture, one or more pairs of insulated conductors is wrapped within a continuous shield provided by each longitudinal channel or groove, thereby separating and shielding each pair of insulated conductors and, hence, isolating or at least substantially reducing crosstalk between pairs of insulated conductors contained within the cable. The invention also provides methods for making a multifolded composite tape. The invention further provides a communications cable comprising a multifolded composite tape to separate and shield insulated conductors.

TRA 1771187v1